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Summary Report

POSSIBLE PILOT GAS CENTRIFUGE PLANT AT SIHALA, PAKISTAN (TSR)

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POSSIBLE PILOT GAS CENTRIFUGE PLANT AT SIHALA, PAKISTAN (TSR)

(TSR) Pakistan's possible pilot gas centrifuge plant is believed to be under construction near Sihala in a fence-secured facility approximately 8 nautical miles (nm) southeast of Rawalpindi (Figure 1). The Sihala Suspect Centrifuge Plant [] is in a heavily wooded area on the west bank of the Ling River near the point where the Ling and Soan Rivers converge and is just east of the main highway to Islamabad. The fence-secured facility and a similar, smaller facility on the opposite side of the river, not believed to be part of the possible pilot gas centrifuge plant, were seen on imagery of June 1971. The functions of these two facilities cannot be determined from available imagery, and no significant changes were observed between June 1971 and September 1977. However, between September 1977 and January 1979, four new buildings were constructed and at least three existing buildings were renovated at the fence-secured facility.

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(TSR) The fence-secured facility (Figure 2 and Table 1) is divided into three areas (areas A, B, and C) by fences. A small guardhouse (item 1) is at the main entrance to the facility. Several single light standards can be identified along the outside perimeter fence.

(TSR) Area A contains five triple-step-roofed buildings (items 2 through 6) in a semicircle along a dirt loop road. A gate entry to area A was observed, but no permanent guardpost was discernible. This area has not undergone any significant changes since it was observed in June 1971.

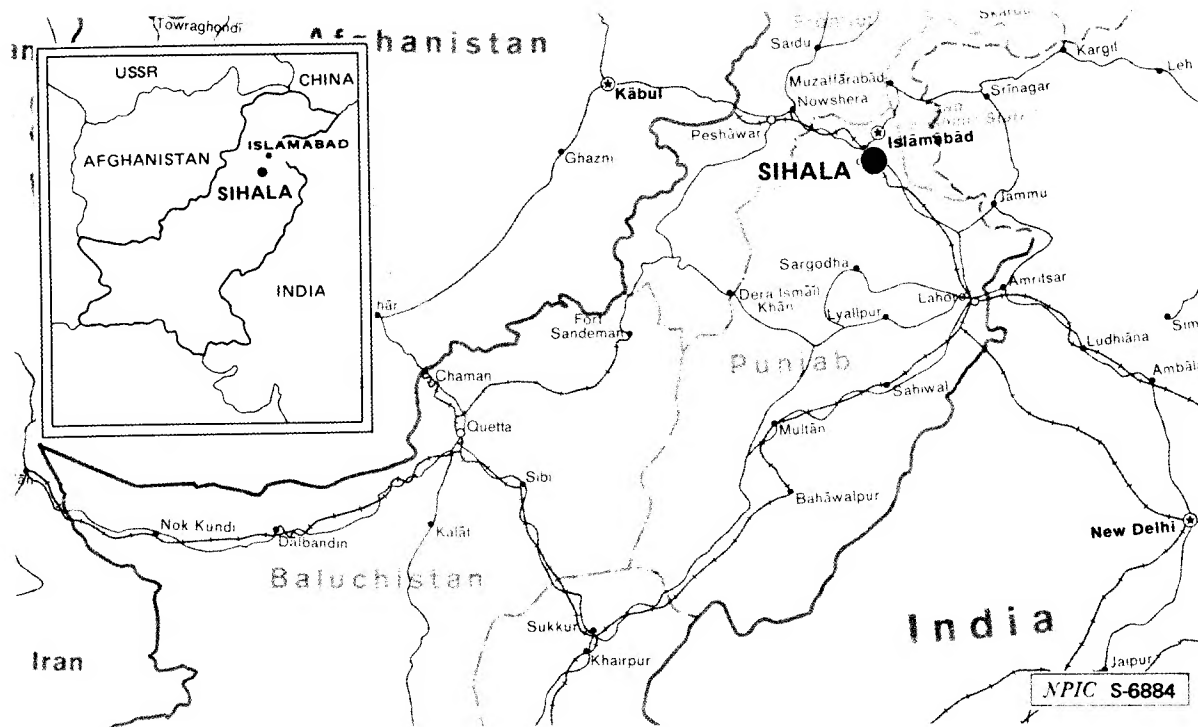


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF SIHALA SUSPECT CENTRIFUGE PLANT, PAKISTAN

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*Table 1. Sihala Suspect Centrifuge Plant, Pakistan
(Keyed to Figure 2)*

This table in its entirety is classified TOP SECRET RUFF

Item	Description	Dimensions*			Comments
		L	W	H	
1	Guardhouse				
2	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
3	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
4	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
5	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
6	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
7	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
8	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
9	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
a					
b					
c					
10	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
a	Annex				
b					
c					
d					
11	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
a	Annex				
b					
c					
d					
12	Triple-step-roofed bldg				
13	Unid bldg				
a					
b					
c					
14	Rectangular bldg				
15	Walled rectangular pad				
16—18	Prob stor bldgs				
19	Prob support bldg				
20	Unid bldg				
21	Prob support bldg				
22	Poss water storage bldg				
23	Poss pumphouse				

*Dimensions are given for buildings renovated or constructed since September 1977.

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(TSR) Area B, suspected to be the location of the possible pilot gas centrifuge plant under construction, contains six triple-step-roofed buildings (items 7 through 12), a recently constructed rectangular building (item 13), and three flat-roofed, probable storage buildings (items 16, 17, and 18) with probable subterranean levels. The highest section of each of the triple-step-roofed buildings in area B and of three of the five buildings in area A (items 4, 5, and 6) abuts the hillside. The highest section of the remaining two buildings in area A (items 2 and 3) has been backfilled with earth.

(TSR) Between September 1977 and April 1978, a small rectangular annex (item 10a) was added to one of the triple-step-roofed buildings (item 10) with a pipeline extending across the roof from the annex to the middle level of the main building. Two horizontal tanks on a foundation were seen on the north side of the road. When the area was next observed in January 1979, a small, enclosed rectangular building (item 14) had been built on the site of the horizontal tanks, and it could not be determined from imagery if the storage tanks were still in place.

(TSR) By January 1979, a large number of trees had been removed from the vicinity of items 13 and 20, and it was apparent that renovations and new construction were underway. Possible vents had been installed on the roofs of items 9, 10, and 11, and walkways to the three buildings were observed. An annex (item 11a) was added to item 11. East of item 14, the large rectangular building (item 13) was in the late stage of construction. A large pile of debris was in the vicinity of the rectangular building. Also by January, a rectangular pad surrounded by a wall (item 15) had been constructed west of the rectangular building.

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(TSR) Area C, just inside the main gate, contains an irregularly shaped building (item 20) and two probable support buildings (items 19 and 21). The irregularly shaped building and the support building immediately north of it (item 21) were constructed between April 1978 and January 1979.

(TSR) A rectangular building (item 22) is situated on top of the ridge in area B. This may be a possible water storage building for the entire site. A possible pumphouse (item 23) is on the south edge of the facility near the river. A trench extends from the rectangular building eastward and downhill toward the triple-step-roofed buildings, but because of the numerous trees the trench can only be traced a short distance. There appears to be a pipeline connecting items 9, 10, and 11 and extending along the south side of items 7 and 8; however, the interpretability of the imagery and the large number of trees in the area precluded a positive identification.

(TSR) A single powerline enters the facility near the main entrance and extends the length of area B along the south side of the road.

(TSR) One or two buses have been observed just outside the main entrance or within the fenced area on several occasions since January 1979. No equipment or other signatures of enrichment activities have been observed.

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted]
Soviet Strategic Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted]

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